

# NASA News

National Aeronautics and  
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Goddard Space Flight Center  
Wallops Flight Facility  
Wallops Island, VA 23337-5099

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Betty Flowers  
Telephone: 757-824-1584  
Elizabeth.B.Flowers@nasa.gov

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## Local Students Spend Vacations Working for NASA

Many local high school students spend their summers working at various restaurants, hotels, and stores. Eight local students are spending this summer in a job they will never forget. These students are working at NASA Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va.

The students are participating in NASA's Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program (SHARP) and the National Space Club Scholars program. Students work eight-hour days, five days a week along side a Wallops employee.

SHARP was established by NASA in 1980. The program was in response to a presidential directive for all federal laboratories and research institutions to conduct summer apprenticeship programs for high school students traditionally underrepresented in the fields of science, mathematics, technology, engineering and geography. The objective of SHARP is to stimulate broader interest in under-represented communities in science and engineering careers and to establish individual working relationships between students and active researchers.

The National Space Club Scholars Program provides high school students with an opportunity to experience how research and development organizations operate on a day-to-day basis in direct support of NASA's mission to inspire the next generation of explorers.

The SHARP students are working at Wallops for eight weeks, and the Space Club Scholars are working six weeks.

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The Wallops Public Affairs Office distributes applications to local high school guidance counselors in January of each year. A committee then makes selections for placement on a competitive basis. Selected students are assigned to work with a mentor in a specific area of science or technology.

Both programs are designed to increase, strengthen and diversify the pool of students for mathematics, science and engineering college majors and careers. The programs offer an intensive science and engineering apprenticeship. The summer students participate in and conduct meaningful research and are involved in many educational and professional activities.

The students selected to participate in the SHARP program this year are: Meghan Marsh (Nandua High School), Nayo Howard (Parkside High School), Samuel Arumala (Parkside High School), and Katrina LaCurts (Pocomoke High School).

This year's National Space Club Scholar students are: Matthew Dori (Stephen Decatur High School), Kyle Collins (Broadwater Academy), Warren Rowe III (Stephen Decatur High School), and Kenneth MacFarlane (James M. Bennett High School).

NASA employees serving as mentors for the students are: Phil Eberspeaker, Sounding Rockets Program Office; Dave Wilcox, Carrier Systems Branch; Pam Pittman, Systems Software Engineering; Russ Dufrene, GN&C and Mission Systems Engineering Branch; and John Moisan, Observational Science Branch. Contract employees serving as mentors are: John VanKleef, GHG; Al Beebe, Raytheon; and Ed Parrott, Wallops Teacher-on-Loan.

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